## POETRY.

Several original poems by the children, were read at a recent Orphan Asylum festival in Albany. The following which was one of them, is quite as good as Bennett's Ledger poetry :

THE COMET. The moon was setting on a cloud,
Full fledg'd in golden light,
A hatching out the little stars,
The chickens of the night.

But out of all that brilliant brood, Produced by Luna pale, There was but one poor little chick That could display a tail.

## MISCELLANY.

EVERY-DAY ABSURDITIES .-- To attempt to

To ask the publisher of a new periodical

how many numbers he sells a week.

To ask a wine merchant how old his wine To make yourselves generally disagreeable, and wonder why no one will visit you, un-less they gain some palpable advantage by

To sit shivering in the cold, because you won't have a fire till November.

To suppose that reviewers generally read more than the title page of the works they To judge of people's picty by their atten-

dance at church.

To keep your clerks on miserable salaries and wonder at their robbing you.

Not to go to bed when you are tired and sleepy, because it is not bed-time.

To make your servants tell lies for you, and afterwards be angry because they tell lies for

To tell your own secrets and believe other

people will keep them.

To expect to make people honest by hard-ening them in jail, and afterwards sending them adrift without the means of getting fancy a thing is cheap, because a low

price is asked for it.

To keep a dog or cat on short allowance, and complain of its being a thief. To expect your trades-people will give you a long credit, if they generally see you in a shabby condition.

To arrive at the age of fifty, and be surprised at any vice, folly or absurdity, your fellow-creatures may be guilty of.

From Chamber's Edinburgh Journal. LEGAL ANECDOTES .- At the Cambridge Spring Assizes, 1838, a person was accused of stealing a watch from the bedroom of Mr. George Paynter, at Wallingham, Cambridge-

Seorge Paynter, at Wallingham, Cambridge-shire; and on the trial, the following little conversation took place during the cross-ex-amination of the prosecutor. Counsel. "Where do you live?" Witness. "At Wallingham; but I am rot a Wallingham man." not a Wallingham man.

"What are you?"
"An engineer. I was apprenticed to Henry Maudesley, partner to Sir Isambert Brunel of Thames Tunnel notoriety."
"Well, what else are you?"

"Well, what else are you?"
"Why, I am a gunsmith, locksmith, and
bell-hanger, iron arm and lathe maker; edge
tool maker: watch and clock-maker and
repairer: mathematical instrument maker; weighing-machine, scale and steelyard
maker; knife-maker and grinder; publicpn
and licensed victualer; and an old-man-ofwar's man."

"O yes, that I am : and if you are willing, I will show you one or two of my tricks." "What can you do?"

"Well, if you will allow me, and not con-sider I am insulting, I will tell you."

"Ob, certainly; go on."

"Then, if you will just take off yourwig, and get the gentleman next to you to grease your head, I will swallow you whole, and then you will be no more trouble to yourself, nor to any one clse."

Counsel. "You may sit down, sir."

We give another incident of more recent date. (1856) in which the witness was a

the warranty of a horse, commonly called a horse cause. Witness, a clergyman, who has sworn in his examination in chief that in his opinion the horse was sound.

Counsel. "Well, you don't know anything about horses! You're a parson, you

Witness. "I have a good deal of knowl-

edge respecting horses."

Counsel. "You think you have, I dare say, but we may think otherwise. I wonder, now, whether you know the difference between a horse and a cow."

Witness. "Yes, I daresay I do."

"Counsel. "Now, then, sir, tell the jury the difference that exists between a horse and

a cow."

Witness. "Gentlemen, one great differ

with the same difference, gentlemen, one great dinerence between these two animals is, that one has horns and the other has not—much the same difference, gentlemen, that exists between a bull and a bully," (turning to counsel.) (Roars of laughter, judge joining.)

Germane to the facetize of witnesses themselves, are laughable remarks made by judges and counsel upon innocent answers to no less innocent questions. At such witty replies, perhaps the greatest adept was the late excelent judge, Mr. Baron Alderson. Very seldom, indeed, did any trial of slight or grave importance take place before him, in which the audience was not convulsed with laughter at some extraordinary remark emanating from the judge. We do not for a moment attempt to defend the learned baron from the charges which have, perhaps very properly, been brought forward against him of doing away with that dignity which is so great an orna-ment to the bench, but we consider that ment to the bench; but we consider that the jokes having been made, and being some of them pretty good, we are doing no barm in retailing them

A prisoner was once tried before the Baron for stealing a saw, and in his defence urged

that he only took it in joke.

"And pray, prisoner, how far might you carry it from the prosecutor's house?" asked judge.
Perhaps two miles, my lord."

"Ah, that was carrying a joke a good deal too far; so the sentence of the court upon you is," etc., etc.

Another time we recollect a juryman beg-ing to be excused from attention on the ground leafness.
\* Why, you can hear me speak," said his

why, you can hear me speak, "said his lordship." That's true enough my lord; but I have to turn my head round very awkwardly, for I am quite deaf with one ear."
"Oh then, certainly, sir, you are excused," replied the baron, with mock solemnity . "a juryman undoubtedly night to hear both

The judge we are speaking of had, in general, a very profound dislike to scientific witnesses, especially of the medical profession, called upon to give an opinion upon the exidence they had heard in court; and he rarely

dence they had beard in court; and he rarely failed in proposing some curious questions to them, which eventually proved a floorer. At one time he took up the assertion of an eminent medical practitioner, that in all cases of death by violent means, a post-mortem examination would throw light upon the actual

there were, and she could tell them by their there were, and she could tell them by their pale faces, bright, eyes, and nervousness.—
They learned quicker, but lost so many days during the term from sickness that they did not get along as fast as those who were able to be present constantly. He also took occasion to examine their luncheon baskets, and found the American fare to be a piece of miner, not the same of record select two mince pie, the same of pound cake, two doughnuts, a pickle, and a cold sausage; while the English, Irish and Scotch children had either two day's old bread and meat, bread and butter, or bread and apple with nothing more.

(From the Green Manuain Froman.)

(From the Green Mannasia Freeman.)

The Oldest Course in Vermont.—There resides in this town the oldest couple, I think, without doubt, there is in the State. Their united ages are one hundred and ninety-six years. The old man is 97, and the old lady is 99. They have lived together as husband and wife, seventy-nine years. What an age of wedded life,—and what an argument for early marriages is their long life. For the last thirty years, until the present winter, they have lived most of the time all alone, and the old lady has done all of her winter, they have lived most of the time all alone, and the old lady has done all of her work, besides some spinning for her neigh-bors. She has made within three years, several tubs of butter, and cheeses for sale, and says she can now do more housework in a day than half of the g ris in town. She can see to read, knit, and sew, without the aid of glasses, and has always been able to do They have had a family of ten children so. They have had a family of ten children
—five of whom are still living, the youngest
being over fifty. The old man loves to sit
and talk to his great, great, grand children,
and tell them what was done when
he was a boy, ninety years ago,
I know he tells all about it. His mind and I know he tells all about it. His mind and judgment is as sound as it ever was, his appearance is that of a hearty, hale old man, and seems to have a good hold of life for several years to come. He has lived in this town about fifty years, and it is interesting to hear him talk of the past, of the early settlers, and of their hardships. One of his neighbors, he says, who made the first commencement in town—drawed his family mencement in town—drawed his family into town 17 miles on a hand-sled—and had to go 17 miles to mill, and has worked day after day to clear the forest, with no other food except corn meal and water, and has labored through some of our severest winter. with no other suit of clothing, than a home spun one of flax, and has rode on horseback 17 miles thus dressed, in a cold winter day. The old man says, for fifty years, no Doctor was called to his home, and that he never had one called for himself but twice in his had one called for himself but twice in his life, and that, he thinks, was twice too much. His life, which might be called a long one—as it is almost a century—he says, seems to him as a dream, or a tale that is soon told. It is amusing to hear him tell of the manners and customs of 80 years ago, and the many changes he has seen in his days. If Barnard, whose members of the Legislature boast that its inhabitants live forever, or never die with uld age, or any other town in

us hear from them. Hardwick, February 3, 1858. The following correspondence between Amore Kendall, when he was Postmaster general, and a Post master down in Alabama, from which Mr., Kendall wished to learn the source of the Tombigbee River will bear a reprint.

Sir \* This department desires to know how far the Tombigbee River runs

verer die with old age, or any other town in Vermont has a more remarkable couple, let is hear from them. D. Q. C.

Respectfully, yours, &c., A. K., Postmaster General.
The reply was brief and ian thus:
Sir: The Tombighee doesn

Sir: \* \* The Tombighee doesn't run up at all—it runs down.

Very respectfully, &c., N. Z.

The Postmaster-General continued the correspondence in this style;

Sir: \* \* Your commission as Postmaster at—is revoked. You will turn over the fund, spapers, &c, pertaining to your office to your successor.

to your successor. Respectfully; &c., A. K. Postmaster-Gene-And the witty Postmaster closed with this parting shot ; Sir. . . The revenues of this office for the quarter ending Sept. 30th, have been 95 cts; its expenditures same period for tallow candles and twine, 1. 05. I trust my

Most respectfully, &c. , N.Z.

Sugar FROM THE SORGHUM. Says; Dr Jackson of Boston in the late United States Agricultural Report;

uccessor is instructed to adjust the balance

I am fully satisfied that both the I am fully satisfied that both the Chinese and African varieties of Sorghum will' produce sugar of the cane type perfectly and abundantly, wherever the cane will ripen their seed. Professor Lawrence Smith, of Louisville, says, in regard to some experiment made. "the result settles the question, that the bulk of the sugar contained in the Sorhum is crystalizable, or cane sugar proper." Novel Use for Hoops .- State's Attorney

Brown receiving information in relation to the hotel at Lyndon Centre, which led him to believe that "ardent liquor" was furnish-ed there, against a law of Vermont, made and provided, and to the great detriment of the purchaser, he despatched Deputy Sherifi Harrington to make search for the "critter." Harrington to make search for the "critter." Although the Sheriff was well acquainted with the locality, having seized a lot of liquor there only four weeks previous, he was unable to discover anything that smelt like rum, though he made dilligent search from cellar to garret. After he returned home, he learned that there was a keg of liquor in the house, and that when he was seen to drive up the hostess "seized" the keg, and covering it with her ampl- skirss, continued her sewing as composedly as possible. O, her sewing as composedly as possible. crinoline! what wilt thou not cover! Sheriff said he "thought the women folks seemed mighty tickled about something!"—
Calcdonian.

It is a poor consolation to us of the old States to see the present two Senators representing this vast Western wilderness of Oregon, containing a scanty 50,000 of population, voting down in the superior branch of Congress, the delegation of New York, Pennsylvania, or Ohio. But it is an incident of our system from which we cannot escape.

The extent to which this process of cutting down the power of the old States has been carried by an unlooked for application or the barren letter of the Constitution, and a violation of its spirit and intention, is show in the facts I am about to state.

All the States admitted since 1836, have now a larger representation in the Senate It is a poor consolation to us of the old

ow a larger representation in the Senate han in the House, while the proportion of enators to members of the House in the whole Union together during that period, has been about as 1 to 4

has been about as I to 4

Towa and Texas were admitted in 1845, and have had under two successive censuses but two members each. In 1848 Wisconsin and Florida were admitted, each with one member of the lower House. Florida has still the same, but Wisconsin has three members under the 7th census. California cames in 1850 with two members, though probably entitled to no more than one under the ratio. Minnesota was admitted in 1858 with two members, and Oregon in 1859 with

the ratio Minnesota was admitted in 1858 with two members, and Oregon in 1859 with one, being by population entitled to only half a one.

During the space of 14 years even States have been admitted, which have 14 Senators and 13 Representatives in the House; so that while they posse a less representative basis than the single State of Virginia, and only a nonlinally greater one than Massachumation would throw light upon the actual cause of the decease."

"And pray, sir asked the judge, "if I were discovered lying on the highway with my head severed from my body, what particular light would a post-mortein examination throw upon the cause of my death!"

A correspondent of the Poughke-psic Datty Democrat states that "while visiting a school in Montreal, he asked the teacher if there were any American children there. She said

## The Free Press

BURLINGTON

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 25, 1859.

AD VALOREM DUTIES. How the ad valorem system of collecting duties are made to work against our own country was strikingly shown by some examples given by Mr. Stanton of Ohio in his a caucus of democratic members of the Lespeech of the 15th inst. For instance, the gislature. The Legislature made no election British' customhouse returns report 115;- -the Senate refusing to go into joint sussion 276 guns valued at an average of \$8,05 each, for that purpose, and no resolution for such exported to the United States during the a session was adopted by the two Houses of

Our own custom house returns report only 35,580 guns imported from England during the same years, valued on the average A majority of the Senate sent a formal proof \$5,98 each. The loss to our revenue was \$22,095. Comparing French custom house returns of wine exported to this country with U. S. Custom House returns of wine imported from France during the same time, while the quantity does not vary much, the to set out the facis in the case or to make an price of the wine in the French returns is argument; but at the heel of last session more than double that in the American returns. The total undervaluation by the lat- Bright and Fitch were entitled to hold ter amounts to \$8.217, 152, and the loss to our revenue on that account was \$3,286,862.

There was abundant evidence of equal frauds in regard to other articles. Mr. Stauton said "he had been furnished by Mr. Morrill of Vermont, with the precise figures in the instance of one cargo of woollens which was imported from Marselles into New Orleans in the ship Claiborne. It consisted of miscellaneous woolen goods, which were valued at the port of exportation at \$29, 143, and at the port of importation at only \$13,768, and of blankets which were valued in the same mannner at \$72,927 and \$34, 923 respectively."

FROM HATTI. - The Jamaica papers to January 23th received at Charleston by the schooner Charlotte Minerva, furnish the fol- into their seats, and we will not allow the

"It appears that on arriving at Port au Prince, General Geffard sent a flag of truce to the Emperor, offering him his life and pro-tection to his family if he would abdicate his tection to his family if he would abdicate his power and save the people of Hayti from the horrors of a civil war. Soulouque demanded time to consider, which was allowed him, but before the allotted time had expired, the im-perial troops laid down their arms and made common cause with the followers of Geffard. The Emergence is the control of the co The Emperor, no longer left to his cho proceeded to make out his papers of abdica-tion and on the fifteenth he caused the fol-

lowing proclamation to be made:
 Haytiens:—Called by the will of the people to govern the destinies of Hayti, all my cares and anxities have constantly been for cares and anxities have constantly been for the welfare of my citizens and the prosperity of my country. I hold hopes that I could have relied on the effections of those who ele-vated me to that supreme power, but the last events that have place do not permit me to doubt the true sentiments of the people. I have too much triendship for my count-ry to hesitate in sacrificing myself for the good of all.

I abdicate, and have one wish, that Hayti may be as happy as my heart has always desired.

Done at Port au prince, 15th day of Jan-uary, 1859. in the 56th year of Indepen-FAUSTIN.

(Signed)

LETTER FROM NEW YORK. NEW YORK, Feb. 15th, 1859.

esting going on in this great city, you know-in

the lecture or sermon line. Prof. Mitchell, of Cincinnati is now delivering Lectures on Astronomy at Plymouth Church, (Mr. Beecher's,) in Brooklyn. We are apt to consider Astronomy as a dry abstract study; but nothing could be less uninteresting or dry than these loc-tures are Judge whether they are acceptable to the Pub..., when I tell you that the first night,

going just before the lecture began, I could only get the last seat next the door; the next time, hal, an hour earlier, I was glad of a seat in the side. aisle, half way up; while last night I was there in got a passable seat. If you could only have some such in Burlington! In last night's lecture the Professor went into the big figures a little-speak. ing of the distances of the fixed stars, how they are measured, &c. He uses no diagrams,-taking his cano, a tumbler, a gas-light, any thing to illustrate what he would say; and he never falls to make his

illustrations clear and perfectly understood. purse .- who comes to New York, even for a week. and does not !-but to what purpose attempt any remarks about him! A report of one of his ser ons would, perhaps be interesting to your readers but that is out of my power.

I give you a few thoughte from his sermon of last unday morning, which was on doing good as we have opportunity.

Every thing born fights for life, and every thing that is born has to have a period of crying and fighting for life; and every thing that beyone is heretical, that is, it is not received at first. heretical, that is, it is not received at first.

Certainly no man can ever preach as well as Scripture is written; but truth, by long use grows smooth, and it is necessary that men should dig up these old truths—with their chiest louch up the did lines, that the truth may stand forth in its former freshness and beauty again.

The gayer faculties of men have been carried captive to Babylon; and now, oftentimes, christians who are gifted with all the powers of mirthfulness, and wit to cheer their fellow-men, sit, like the Jows with their harps hanging on the willows, and refuse to sing the songs of home in a strange land.

Smiles in times of trouble are those rainbows which field spans on retreating storms, signs that the deluge shall not entirely overwhelm the earth.

You must baptise all your faculties with the spirit of love: and when you come to that, I will believe immersion only, and think that sprinkling wont do-bat only then.

No man has a right to say he is doing good when

In Lawrenceburg the wells are 80 feet dee

Plymouth church is crowded full every Sunday I ruly there are sew preachers with the apportuni ty for doing good that Mr. Beecher has, and he But for a crowd as is a crewd, commend me to a

matinee at the Academy of Music. I was there on Saturday to hear Piccolomini. The doors opened half an hour before the advertised time, unable withstand the waves of silk and crinoline that best against them ; an hour before the curtain rose there were no seats except in the galleries and twenty minutes later, I was glad to get a seat on the steps leading into the second gallery, and entirely on one side ! And the coming out ! such a mass of females I never saw. I was going to say dence mass, but that is hardly the adjective These performances being in the day time, many ladies come unprotected, save by the latest fashion.

quality. Piccolomini is much better as an actress then we singer.

oged person into Oregon and claim him as a | he had better be short, as the Judge was | THE INDIANA SENATOR CASE. The Indiana Senator case, which was disslave; if this constitution is sanctioned by our votes and made the organic law of Oreosed of on Monday, shows in a most glaring gon, there is no way given among men by which he could invoke her courts to give him his freedom. It is reserved for this so-called light the unscrupulous character of the proslavery democracy of the present day. Every one acquainted with the facts of the case free State to invent a method more subtile and effectual for maintining slavery in her own borders than was ever devised south of knows that Bright and Fitch had no more right to be in the United States Senate as Mason and Dixon's line. Thus it is that the Mason and Dixon's line. Thus it is that the most efficient instrumentalities for carrying out the great work of the slave propaganda are furnished by the north, and in the name of freedom. This is the false and hollow-Senators from Indiana, than any other two men in the State had. Their pretended election was in substance no better than one by the Legislature, and the Senate was occupied in regular Senate Session, while the pretended election was going on in the House. in that community; one with personal rights and privileges as citizens, and another dis-abled, with no rights to hold real estate or test to the U. S. Senate against the to exercise any of the great immunities of ci-tizens one class of Chinamen mere seris admission of Bright and Fitch. But they took their seats and voted during and the other clothed with all perights Now, there is a clouse in our the whole session. So have was their elsim. with China providing sast on the and China shall be for our t pose with each other, and with all the citizens thereof, without exception to present or proces; and how, asked Mr. Dawes, does that clause comthat the Judiciary Committee did not dare they made a naked report that Messrs. port with the provision of the Oregon Consti-tution to which reference has been made. He would like to know, if there was such a their seats. Of course the Republican Senprovision existing between us and Gre-Britain, and we should make an invidio ators voted against, and the Democratic Senators voted for, adopting that conclusion.

But there came a day when the Senate and House of Representatives in Indiana did, in an orderly and constitutional way elect two men, Messrs, Lane and McCarthy, as U. S. Senators, and sent with them a powerful appeal from the Legislature of Indiana to the United States Senate, to have the men thus lawfully elected admitted to the seats now occupied by more usurpers .-Did the majority of the Senate go into an investigation of the subject or even allow the men thus sant by the State of Indiana to present their case before it? Not at all. They refused to do either. They simply said we have vot d these men, Bright and Fitch

cass even to be required into. Such an indecency, such an outrageous wrong was of course resisted by the Republicans, and of course too it was upheld by the Democrats in the Smate. So it always is with despotism. It tramples on law, on honor, and on decency, whenever by doing so it can strengthen its own power.

MR. MORRILL'S BILL.

On the 16th, in the House, Mr. Morrill's bill for appropriating lands for the support of Agricultural Colleges came up; and after an ineffectual motion from Cobb of Alabama to table the bill, the Senate amendments were concurred in and the bill was passed. It is confidently said by its enemies that the President will veto it.

The N. V. Tribune says, " if this bill should become a saw and the provision it makes for practical education not be more than two-thirds embezzled or squandered. we believe it will go far to renovate the industry, especially the Agriculture, of our country, bringing the last conquests of sciences to the aid of daily toil, and increasing essentially the average productiveness of our soil. Years will be required to realize fully this anticipation; but we shall be disappointed if future generations do not have ample reason to bless the name of Justin F. Morrill of Vermont, who drafted and enincered this bill. Next to the Homestead bill, it is the most beneficient and important measure which has engaged the attention of the present Congress. We will not believe that it is doomed to encounter the withering

THE CONSTITUTION OF OREGON. EXTRACT PROX THE SPEECH OF MR. DAWES, OF MASS.

blast of a Veto."

Mr. Comins of Massachusetts having given his reasons for voting for the Oregon Bill, fifteen minutes after the doors opened, and barely Mr. Dawes of that State gave his for voting against it. In the conclusion of his remarks, addressing himself particularly to Mr. Comins, he continued :

> "I cannot understand, sir, how a member from my own State, in the honest discharge of his duty, as honest a discharge of it as my own, an come to the conclusion that it is his duty, by his vote, to breathe the breath of life linto a provision of a Constitution that would disfranchise a large portion of the people of Massachusetts. I desire to call up, in the recollection of my colleague, the efforts Massachusetts has made heretofore to test the rights of her citizens to the privileges and immunities of citizenship in other States. "I cannot understand, sir, how a member immunities of citizenship in other States. I desire to have it remembered—I do not intend ever to forget it—that Massachusetts has utterly failed to have the question tried in the highest tribunal of the country, to know whether or not there is any force and effect in this provision of the Constitution as ex-pounded, even in this latter day, by the Su-preme Court of the United States. I, for one, do not in end to forget the indignities heaped upon her, in her struggle to secure to her citizens their right under this clause Sir, I desire to call attention to the phraseol a studied malignity in this phraseology that I cannot well comprehend in the Constitution

of a State :
'No free negro or inulatto not residing in this
State at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall ever come, reside, or be, within this

"They could not condescend to say "volut They could not condescend to say "voluntarily." A citizen of my State may be drifted by stress of weather into their harbors; a whaler, with a citizen of my State, included in this provision, may be brought in there, and the humble sailor having no command of the ship, no responsibility, and no con-trol, may be taken in there against his will; and yet this Constitution imposes a duty upon the Legisleture to provide penelties to be visited upon his head. Without being aware of it, he may come within the limits of that State and incur the penalty. And furthermore, he who shall "employ" or 'harbor" such persons comes under the same risitation. They have not inserted "know-ngly." It may be done ignorantly and in-nocently, and yet come within the letter of

this provision.

And, sir, I do not know by what test man may tell one of those from another class of colored persons which this provision of the Constitution permits to remain there. The Constitution has made no provision that they shall wear frontlets upon their brow; but whoever, knowingly or not, innocently or designedly, whether in obedience to the Divine injunction to feed the hungry and to clothe the naked, or with a design to vislate the law; all alike are denounced as transgressors of the law, and each one and all comes within this provision of the Constitu-

I desire to say, sir, before I take leave of this provision, that it exceeds in cruelty and inhumanity any provisions touching the same subject in any slave code in the United States, so far as I know. There is not slave in a slave State who has not, under he laws, a right to maintain a suit in her courts. feelieve such an inhuman provision could not stand an hour, sir, in your own State of South Carolina. Let any man bring a col-

Passing from this topic to the clause of the Oregon Constitution which is specially in re-ference to Chinamen,—while it permits one class of Chinamen,—water it permits one class of Chinamen to reside within that State, with all the personal rights and privi-liges as citizens, it disables another class, still permitting it however to reside there; and thus it builds up two classes of foreign men

distinction between different classes of her subjects, disabling upon the same soil some of them, and granting to others the personal rights of the citizen, whether we should not be called to account for it? It is an infraction of treaty stipulations, which are th

apreme law of the land.

And finally, Mr. Dawes alluded to that clause of the Oregon constitution which provides that "the legislative has been said have power to restrain and regulation has be

migration to this State of persons not qua-fied to become citizens of the United State Under this the African slave trade can re-opened. That is now prevented only by a law of Congress. This provision grants full authority to bring blacks from Africa, and authority to bring blacks from Africa, and to prescribe the terms upon which it may be done. There it no way that any African so brought, could, by the aid of the courts of Oregon, release himself from bondage. And if this authority be given by vote of Congress, no penalty can be visited upon the heads of those who participate in the traffic between Oregon and Africa.

In conclusion, said Mr. Davis:—

"This sir is not only not a republican

"This, sir, is not only not a republican constitution; but it is not a free constitution. It is a departure from all our ideas of a republican constitution. It makes odious dis-tinctions among classes of men; among individuals of the same class. It ruthlessly tramples the rights of the citizen in the dust. It arrogates to itself prerogatives that cannot be exercised in common by all the States. It trenches on the guarantees of the Consti-tution of the United States. Sworn to support that Constitution, I cannot sanction this. I cannot be driven from my opposition because there are other provisions of this constitution which inclines some in call-ing it a free State; or because, if I remand it back to the territorial government, under the Dred Scott decision, slavery exists there. I demand something more than a Free State in name. I want the reality. If slavery exists in Oregon while a Territory, it is be-cause the people want it; and if they want it, they will make it a slave State, in name well as in fact, within a twelve-month, if

These are some of the reasons why I cannot vote for this bill. I speak for no man here but my self, and for no constituency I think I know their se but my own. and should I vote for this bill, I ments; and should I vote for this bill, a should expect to be burned in effigy at every cross-road in my district. I do not intend to disappoint, in this respect, the just expectation of those who sent me here."

THE TRIAL of the notorious Dr. Howard terest throughout that section of country. tent of punishment is three years in State Prison. Howard's bonds in this case are reduced from \$5,000 to \$1,500, and he is at large,-sentence having been respited, in consequence of some exceptions being allowed. Howard is under bonds on other charges, to the amount of about \$17,000.

EQUINE ITEMS .- A trotting match between Young St. Lawrence," owned by M. M. Byington and H. Paul (who has recently purchased an interest of one half in the horse for the sum of \$1200,) and "Ira Allen,"owned by W. B. Munson, occurred on the ice of Mallett's Bay yesterday. But one heat was trotted, which was won by Ira Allen in 2,36, when the other horse was withdrawn on 'account of lameness.

Lemuel North. Esq., of Champlain, N. Y., recently sold his five years old stallion, Capt. Light-foot, which is said to have troted in 2,28 on the ice at Plattsburgh last winter, for \$2,500, to a gentleman in Kentucky, the owner of Green Mountain Black Hank, formerly owned by D. S. Myrick, of

Middlebury was found on Sunday last in his dwelling, badly gashed in different parts of his mortal frame and covered with blood .-This state of things was the result of a family jar, which was the result of a family jug-of whiskey. Tom's wife explained it all by saying that he "blarneyed about the house and tore himself." Tom was so badly torn that he was hardly worth mending; and he lies in a precarious situation. The Register, which relates these facts, remarks that the leve of such a wife is beyond all compre-

Accident.-On Thursday of last week A. the cartilage of a third.

mentioned below must have belonged to the same family, we judge, for he had a similar

probably not accustomed to such things

SENATE WASHINGTON, Feb. 15. Prayer was offered by Father Boyle, a Catholic Priest. Not a Senator was in his seat at the opening hour, save one, who re-tired into the lobby during the prayer. Mr. Crittenden took the floor on the Cuba

bill.

Mr. Crittenden commenced by admitting the importance and desirability of Cuba, the residence and resting place of Columbus. He also admitted the President's constitu-He also admitted the President's constitu-tional right to negotiate for it without legislation, nay more, if the President suc-ceeds in acquiring it by honorable means, there are few who would not hail the there are few who would not hail the acquisition; but he (Crittenden) did not regard his success as certain, on the contrary no time can be more inopportune. When the Message was promulgated, what echo was returned from all Spain, indeed from all Europe, and even from the down-trodden programs of Caba. Spain, spain, with a second control of the Spain, which will be the control of the spain of the second control of the spain of the second control of the spain of the second control of Cuba. Spanish pride was The Cubans refused to be bought We have the authority of the Spanish Government, that not only is Spanin not conciliated by our manner of approach-ing b r, but considers it as an insult. Would ing b r, but considers it as an insult. Would the President have written that Message had he known it would be so considered? Mr. Marcy to Mr. Soule in 1853 says, it was not expedient then to offer to purchase the Island, and how much stronger were the circumstances now? If the President, in the form of the Security declaration walks the face of the Spanish declaration, makes the offer, how can he avoid the imputation of

offer, how can be avoid the imputation of premeditated insult?

God speed him, however, in his negotiation, and save us from those probable complications and wars, of which this same Cuba may be the cause. Diplomacy, instead of now pressing the obnoxious offer, should now leave it open, and seek to renew it in some one of the thousand events that occur is the fixe of nations. Suppose Spain were in the fate of nations. Suppose Spain were to sell; suppose England and France, who propose a tripartite treaty, were to permit her to sell the Islands she holes as trustee, where are we to get the money? We have been obliged to go in debt for our household expenses. We have raised one loan for marexpenses. We have raised one toan for market money, and another is wanted. The Treasury emits a foneral sound when we knock for money, for none is there. He did not mean to say the country cannot produce any amount of men and money, but it is convenient to do so at one time than another. Is it convenient now to have fas-tened on us and our children, a ten million per annum interest on a two hundred million per annum interest on a two hundred million loan for the purchase of Cuba? Mr. Chit-tenden here made a digression to speak of Central America and other weak States. Once it was the policy, he said, of the American Government to maintain a friendly feeling with all the nations of the Continent. He remembered when the American name was loved—when it was doar to the strug-gling republic—when the declarations of en-couragement that had been spoken by the voice of Henry Clay were read at the head of their armies. How have we lost all this? Read the Message and there you will see that

Read the Message and there you will see that we are at variance with Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and that we are buried in difficulties from the Feejeo Islands to the Spanish throne. Do all these specksof war augur well to the revenue?—yet a bill is now pending to place the military and naval forces in the hands of the President, apart and above the action of Congresy. Has any one the Constitutional power to make war except Congress? No. But you can hold a threat over the heads of these small States, make them tremble, and settle any claim whenever it shall appear good to the President to do it. Mr. Chittenden did not think it worthy the magnanimous character of our country to hunt out the weak and let the strong go free. If that bill shoull pass, can we expect to be at peace, when we have even now to renew at peace, when we have even now to renew our geographical knowledge to know where the places are with which we have difficul-Paraguay expedition, the greatest armada of Bradford, Vt., for manslaughter, came off fight Lopez, a Paragary chief, who, in recently at Chelsea, and attracted great inBradford, Vt., for manslaughter, came off fight Lopez, a Paragary chief, who, in power and ability was not equal to John Ross, the Cherokee Chief. He then referred trest throughout that section of country.

The jury brought in a verdiet of guilty of the lesser offense; i. e. guilty of the attempt defend the frontier of the wilderness, poetiwith intent to procure abortion. The ex-cally called Arizona. The bill was most un-tent of punishment is three years in State. Wise, It was to enable the President to make wise. It was to enable the President to make little wars with little people. He then reviewed the Ostend Manifesto, and its implied hint that if Spain will not sell we will take. The President supports this demand for thirty millions of dollars by the example of Jefferson, but the cases are not parallel. Before the treaty is assented to by Congress, Before the treaty is assented to by Congress, and even if Congress never consent, the President can draw the money and take its safe-keeping into his own hands. The President himself may be above suspicion, but the Constitution does not entrust him with one dollar. The bands of the Executive should dollar. The hands of the Executive should be pure and unsoiled by money. He should be unsuspected and not even exposed to the unescapable suspicion of money dealing. Further, it is unconstitutional, because it augments the President's power and destroys the balance between the States.—If we had Cuba and had paid two hundred millions for it, he would say to her, we have rescaled you from European tyranny, and

millions for it, he would say to her, we have rescued you from European tyranny, and have saved you from being a bulwark against us in the hands of a European power—estab-lish a free and independent government of your own under our protection—it will be better for you, and we believe for us. He did not want to see our Anglo-Saxon race mingle with people who do not understand mingle with people who do not understand or appreciate our institutions, and he did not think our country's greatness was to be achieved by adding acre to acre, but by fill-ing it with arts and industry. He believed this whole scheme of policy would burst like a bubble. The bill is a mere piece of fanfaronade. It is a part of a fireworks now

set ablaze to give a different complexion and hue to the rather darkened features of the Administration party. WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. SENATE -- Mr. Hunter from the Finance Committee reported the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Appropriation bill.

Mr. Wade of Ohio, moved to postpone all prior orders, and that the Senate take up the Homestead bill.

Mr. Johnson of Tennessee, also urged it. The bill was finally taken up-26 to 23and read.

Mr. Hunter of Virginia endeavored to

Mr. Chandler energetically denounced the

detailed his personal experience to prove that Cuba, although a good land, is not so good as the Western States, and its climate is in effect a perpetual tropic.

have it postponed for the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill. Messrs. Wilson, Stuart, Shields, Seward, and others opposed it.

Mr. Hunter finally moved to take up the Lyman, Esq., of Manchester, slipped and fell, fracturing two of his ribs, and severing bill, which was carried by the casting vote of the Vice President, the ballot standing 28 of the Vice President, the ballot standing 28 to 28.

Mr. Pugh moved an amendment, proposing to abolish all grades of ministers excepting one, and fixing the salary of that grade at \$10,000, and the secretaries at \$3,000; all missions are to be special, and for reasons explained to the Senate at the time of appointment; consuls general to be abolished; consuls to have fees of office, to the limit of salaries now provided by law.

The bill was then laid aside for the Cuba proposition, when Mr. Chandler took the floor.

Politeness goes a great ways. Henry Ward

Beecher says an impudent clerk can do almost

as much injury to a store as the neglect of the proprietor to advertise his goods. of an old Deacon, who, on being asked by his paster to close a meeting with a short prayer, replied, "I am very willing to pray, but don't like to be stinted." The minister

aversion to being straightened in his commu-nion with God. The story has a good mor-al.—Christian Watchmon: The Rev. Mr Derwell, a pious and curious old Methodist minister, went from Ten-nessee to Kentucky, in 1812, to visit his rel-ative, the Hen. Wen. B.dem. The man was not a religious man, but a gentleman, and invited the minister to have family worship cvery evening. While he was visiting there, Judge Cone and his wife, from Nashville, arrived there to pass the night, and Mr. Bolton, being a little embarrassed, said to the minister, as he brought out the Bible, that

bunded dellars per head for every man, woman, child and nigger; not to own them, but merely for leave to govern a soum of po-pulation that we would reject with scorn if they offered to come for nothing.

The only use of the Island to us would be THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS, 1988

to keep an army and fleet there, costing one hundred millions annually. The native creoles are an ignorant, vicious, priest-ridden set, over whom Gen. Tacon established a military despotism, not to prevent a politi-cal insurrection, but crime. From the Capt. General, the Judge on the bench, and the priest in the pulpit, to the lowest Cuban-bribery is universal. No other but the Catholic religion is tolerated, and the Cubans to a man are true to the Catholic Church, and the Catholic Church is despot-

He believed that the declaration of Inde-He believed that the declaration of Independance quoted by Mr. Benjamin was written in some tavern in New Orleans. What was the fate of the gallant Crittenden, when he went in good faith to aid these, so called panting Cubans. He died like a man, but declared with his latest breath that he hat declared with his latest breath that he can be cause of complaint which the President makes is, "the want of authority" on the part of the Captain General of Cuba to expense and readers wrongs committed by ofbut declared with his latest breath that he had been decived in his belief that the Cubans thirsted for liberty.

Here he went largely into the Dred Scott decision, saving that it and the thirty million corruption fund are the only planks in the Dreats is a second or second.

the Democratic platform of 1860, and under which they will march to certain defeat.

Mr. Chandler concluded by examining the details of the expenditures to show that the increase since 1852 has arisen from corrup-

Horse .- The Serreant-at-Arms brought in John Cassidy, of Philadelphia, who had been summoned as a witness before the Printing summoned as a witness before the Printing Investigating Committee, but failed to appear. He was now arraigned before it of House, for contempt. On being interogated he pleaded illness, disclaimed all intention of disrespect, and begred to be excused. His answer was deem described by an discharged

Mr. English called up the bill regulating the postage on newspapers and periodicals, and took occasion to correct some misapprehensions affont as to the effect of his bull.— He denied that it was intended to tax newspapers passing in exchange—the design is that periodical dealers shall receive mail mat ters on the same terms as regular subscribers, and that maps and lithographs may be car-ried for one cent per ounce. Herotofore such matter has been excluded from the mail.

Mr. Coffax said, that, by the phraseology of one of the sections, every newspaper pub-lisher would be compelled to prepay postage on his entire circulation passing through the mails—a change asked for by no one.

One section provides a punishment for per-sons taking out letters from post offices by mistake, but wilfully omitting to return them; and also for persons who neglect to apply money handed them for prepayment of postage, etc. At present there is no law to punish such offenders. The bill proposes a fine of \$100, or one year's imprisonment, for the offence. Passed.

for these offences. Passed.

The House then went into Committee on the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill.

Mr. Davis of Mississippi, defended t c Democratic party from Mr. Garrett's charges of extravagance, and accounted for the increased expenditures by referring to extensive mail facilities, the Utah war, expenses attending new territories.

new territories, &c.
For these increased expenditures neither
the President, nor heads of departments,
were responsible.
Mr. Granger followed, culogising New York for her efforts to guard the liberty of every p rson who sets foot on her soil, and declar-ing that if she fulfilled her constitutional ing that it she finished her constitutional obligations no person can invade her terri-tory to take away human beings into slavery. Congress, he said, had no power to legislate the return of fugitive slaves. Mr. Phelps of Mo., alluded to the great

He referred, in illustration, to the cassary.

Mr. Stanton said he did not advocate the Captain-General of Cuba, there is no motive. but because the army was now used as an in-strument of despotism in the enforcement of ppressive laws and preventing the first prin-

oles of civil liberty. Without action the Committee rose, and

## THE ACQUISITION OF CUBA. SPECCH OF DON, HOMER E. BOYCE.

Mr. Chairman, the President, in his late annual message has called the attention of Congress to the relations of this Government Congress to the relations of this covernment with Spain; and has recommended a course of policy to be pursued with reference to that Government which is remarkable in its character, and momentous infits consequences upon the interests of this country. The policy which the President recommends looks to the acquisition of Cuba, a dependency of Spain, and of which she has been in almost uniternd of which she has been in almost uninterand of which she has been in almost uninter-rupted possession since its discovery by Co-lumbus. The acquisition of Cuba has been regarded as desirable and important by very many of the public men of the country. Its commercial importance and its geographical socition are such that its acquisition under sertain circumstances would, no doubt, be desirable. But while I admit this, I deny desirable. But while I admit this, I deny that the facts and reasons set forth in the message of the President, warrant the con-clusions to which he has arrived, or will clusions to which he has arrived, or win-justify Congress in adopting the extraor-dinary course which he has recommended, in making an appropriation in money to be used by him in the negotiation with Spain for the purchase of Cuba, in advance of any etion on the part of the Senate, in whom the Constitution has wisely vested the power to ratify and confirm all treaties which may

be made by the President.

The terms upon which the President proposes to acquire Cuba. are by honorable negotiation: and he is careful to say that we would not, if we could, acquire it in any other manner; with the important qualification, however, added, that circumstances may occur which will justify its acquisition in some other manner—unfer the imperative and overruling law of self-preservation. The terms of henorable negotiation, by which the President proposes to acquire Cuba, forbid the supposition that the causes of complaint against the Spanish Government, which he has made so prominent in his message, are designed to influence the question, except to illustrate the importance of its acquisition to the peace and prosperity of the country.

The first complaint made is, that Spanish officials, under the direct control of the Captain-General of Cuba, have insulted our national flag, and, in repeated instances, have. ms of honorable negotiation, by which the

tain-General of Cuba, have insulted our national flag, and, in repeated instances, have,
from time to time, indicted injuries on the
persons and property of our citizens. This is
a grave charge, and if true, it seems to me
that the President would better discharge his
duty to the country, after the failure of all
honorable attempts to obtain satisfaction, to
lay the whole subject before Congress, with
such facts and evidence as would aid intelligent action, and ask for such legislation as a
proper regard for the national honor, and the
protection of our citizens, may demand.
Mr. Chairman, I have no justification to

Mr. Chairman, I have no justification to offer for Spain on account of these charges I believe, sir, I would go as far as any man in defense of our national honor, and the protection of our citizens. But, sir. wher Mr. Chandler energetically denounced the measure, and characterized it as worthy of the Ostend manifesto and of its author the brigand James Buchanan, but unworthy of the President of the United States. The thirty million is a great bribery and corruption fund, and the purchase of Cuba is a clap trap and a vain attempt to save the Democratic party from the annihilation the Almighty has destined for it. He spoke claborately on the expenses of the purchase it would entail as mortgage and interest, and detailed his personal experience to prove that Cuba, althouse a good land, is not so good. we remember that, within the past few years

To purchase the island is merely to pay two hundred dellars per head for every man, woman, child and nigger; not to own them, but merely for leave to govern a soum of pobut merely for leave to govern a soum of pobut merely for leave to govern a soum of pobut merely for leave to govern a soum of pobut merely for leave to govern a soum of pobut merely for leave to govern a soum of the chain institute of Kentucky, who will make another than the control of the chain institute of th er, and a final attempt, to obtain justice from that Gov rament. I infer from the lan-guage of the message that no peremptory demand has yet been made upon the Spanish Government. When such a demand shall have been made and refused, it will be time for Congress to consider what further measures are required for the protection of the national honor and the enforcement of pri-

vate rights.

The fact mentioned in the message in connection with these claims, of the oft-recur-ring change in the Spanish ministry is, no doubt, unfortunate to private claimants in this country upon that Government; and is, probably, equally unfortunate to Spanish subjects; and although we may well regret part of the Captain General of Cuba to ex-amine and redress wrongs committed by of-ficials under his control on citizens of the United States. The Spanish laws have nev-er confurred this authority upon the Captain General; and all the intercourse of our citi-izens with Spanish subjects in Cuba is pre-sumed to have been had with a full knowledge of the laws regulating that intercourse; and while it may be inconvenient for our citizens to be compelled to go to Madrid to seek redress, there may be good and sufficient reasons why Spain should retain the right to reasons why Spain should retain the right to pass upon all those questions affecting the revenue, or property of the State, rather than intrust that power to a subordinate of-feer. The Spanish Minister of State (Don Calderon Collontes) in his message of the

Calderon Collontes) in his message of the
4th of January last, in speaking of this portion of the President's message, says:

"But the demand is made that the Captain General of Cuba should have power to
administer the government of that country,
and to act in all questions which may arise, I do not see upon what a demand so impor-tant can be founded. There has never been a conflict which could not be settled in the best way by her Majesty's Government, and that in a short time. Communications with those countries are now frequent, so much so that the Tampico reparation, of which I spoke just now, was made on the 1st of December of last year, and her Majesty's Government received the acknowledgement dur

ing the month.
"This shows, then, how much delay occurs in the communication of the petitions of the Government of the United States to her Majesty's Government, and how much time will be necessary to return the answer which the Government may decide upon. But whether the time which these commuof Spain cannot be deprived of the preroga-tives which belong to it. The direction of the foreign relations, the determination of all international conflicts, whatever may be their nature, belongs exclusively to the Crown, the exercise of this prerogative can-not be delegated; it would be an abdication which the legitimately-constituted public powers could not tolerate. The Spanish Government will, therefore, resist any indi-cation whatever which may be made in this direction; and beforehand it takes the op-portunity to declare that the Captain General of Cuba will continue to exercise the powers which belong to him at present, and that they will receive no extension, because the laws do not allow it, the public powers would not authorize it, and it would not be

consistent with the dignity of the Crown. "And so it is seen, consequently, that, with respect to the three point and have occupied the public attent",, and which necessarily have occupied; a attention of all, the Spanish Government is in a tranquil poincrease in Army expenditures, and expressed a desire to cooperate in reducing the appropriations whenever teasible. propriations whenever teasible.

Mr. Stanton moved to strike out the \$100,000 for the recruiting service, considering the army four times as numerous as neeither of convenience or expediency, for c larging them. The Spanish Government is the only judge of the expediency of any measure of interior administration, and this

is of that character."

It would seem as if this answer ought to be conclusive in the mind of the President against the justice or propriety of this de-mand. The same embarrassments exists in our intercourse with the colonies and de-pendencies of other Governments. It is a subject with which this Government has no right to interfere, and has no just cause of complaint, as long as treaty obligations are observed, and we are placed on the same footing with the most favored nations of the

The President says, further, that "Cuba. The President says, further, that "Cuba, in its existing colonial condition, is a constant source of injury and annoyance to the American people." This expression of the President is susceptible of different constructions, and it is doubtful in what sense he wishes to be understood. If it is injurious and ann ying to maintain a prosperous and increasing commerce with that island, and to exchange the productions and manufactures of our country for those of Cuba, then the President is right in saying that its present condition is injurious and annoying to the American people—But, I hardly think that the President has expressed the true sentiment of the American people to whom he refers. I know the possession of that island by the Spanish Government, is a source of by the Spanish Government, is a source of annoyance to a portion, and I believe it to be a small portion, of our people. But the annoyance does not arise from any direct, material injury to themselves, or to any American interests. It arises rather from a covetons spirit of envy. They are annoyed that that beautiful island should be in the possession of any other Power, or of any body else but themselves. Believing, as I do that this is the sum total of the injury and an-novance which the Spanish possession of that island cutalls upon our people, it has strack me with surprise that the President should

me with surprise that the President should have made it a subject of comment, or of remark even, in his message to Congress.

Another reason assigned by the President for the acquisition of Cuba, is the happy effect which he anticipates from it in the suppression of the African slave trade. This is an argument which addresses itself to the moral sense of the country; and if the facts warrant the belief which the President has expressed, it will be regarded by some as an warrant the belief which the President has expressed, it will be regarded by some as an important, and with some, perhaps, as a conclusive reason why we should secure its acquisition. If the President can devise any means by which this disgraceful traffic in human souls can be forever abolished, he will not want for support in enabling him to apply them. But I insist, Mr. Chairman, that he has fallen into a grave error in supposing that the acquisition of Cuba will accomplish any such result. He says that we are bound by treaty with Great Britain to maintain a naval force on the coast of Africa, at much naval force on the coast of Africa, at much expense both of life and treasure, solely for the purpose of arresting slavers bound to that island. The treaty which was concluded beisland. The treaty which was concluded be-tween this country and Great Britain on the 9th day of August, 1842, and to which the President refers, makes no mention of Cuba, and does not appear to have been made with special reference to any country. Its lan-guage is plain and explicit, and is clearly applicable to the slave trade every where. It is not confined to Cuba; and it is as much abligators upon this Government to concerobligatory upon this Government to co-oper-ate with Great Britain, under that treaty, in preventing the slave trade to this country as to Cuba.

But the President, no doubt, bear his con clusion, upon the fact stated by him, that Cuba is the only spot in the civilized world where the African slave trade is tolerated. The President cannot mean to be understood that there is any legal toleration for this trade in Cuba, for the slave trade is declared to be illerable. trade in Cuba, for the slave trade is declared to be illegal by the Spanish laws in force in Cuba and is in violation of treaty obligations of Spain with Great Britain. He must mean that it is permitted or suffered; that parties